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A

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Fifty-first session
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Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 151

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Note verbale dated 8 November 1996 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Azerbaijani Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith, as received by fax, the "Information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic on measures to eliminate international terrorism" (see annex). This information is forwarded in addition to that previously submitted on the organization and implementation by Armenia of terrorist activities against Azerbaijan and distributed as document A/C.6/50/4 of 15 November 1995.

The Permanent Mission of the Azerbaijani Republic to the United Nations should be extremely grateful to the Secretary-General for his kind assistance in distributing the attached material as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 151.

ANNEX

[Original: Russian]

Information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic on measures to eliminate international terrorism

The information provided by the Permanent Mission of the Azerbaijani Republic to the United Nations which was circulated as an official document of the United Nations General Assembly at its fiftieth session (A/C.6/50/4 of 15 November 1995) under agenda item 146, "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", on the organization and implementation by the Republic of Armenia of terrorist activities against the Azerbaijani Republic, provided detailed information demonstrating the participation in and responsibility for the perpetration of subversive and terrorist acts against Azerbaijan of official Armenia, which makes use of terrorism in its campaign to implement its annexationist plans.

After the open assertion by Armenia in the late 1980s of its territorial claims on Azerbaijan and the launching of armed operations in the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic, Armenian terrorism became significantly more active and such well-known terrorist organizations as the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia, the Commandos of Justice of the Armenian Genocide and the Armenian Revolutionary Army transferred the centre of their activities from the countries of the Middle East, Western Europe and North America to the territory of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. During that period, terrorism in Armenia was raised to the level of a State policy and its target was the territory of Azerbaijan. Weapons and ammunition were transported on a large scale from Armenia to the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic and into the hands of underground terrorist groups in other parts of Azerbaijan.

In all, as a result of terrorist acts against Azerbaijan carried out since the late 1980s by the Armenian secret service and Armenian terrorist organizations closely connected with it, including terrorist acts on road, rail, sea and air transport and ground communications, over 2,000 peaceful citizens of Azerbaijan have been killed, the majority of them women, the elderly and children.

The secret terrorist operations of the Armenian secret service led to a major scandal connected with the arrest and conviction in Azerbaijan of Igor Khatkovsky, a Russian national whom it had recruited. Detailed information regarding this criminal case and the judicial process is contained in the aforementioned document (A/C.6/50/4). The case of Igor Khatkovsky helped the secret service of the Russian Federation to uncover and neutralize a group of agents of the Directorate for National Security (the former KGB) of Armenia who were operating in Russian territory and were responsible for organizing terrorist acts in Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation. Despite persistent attempts by the Armenian authorities to avoid publicity concerning the participation of the Armenian secret service in terrorist activities and to

influence the investigation, the case of the Armenian terrorists was handed over to the courts and the circumstances were the subject of reports by the mass information media. For instance, the Russian newspaper Argumenty i fakty reported the following facts:

> "... Between 1991 and 1993, the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States suffered a series of brutal terrorist acts ... In Russian, Azerbaijani and Georgian territory, passenger and goods trains headed for Baku began to be blown up with alarming regularity. The services responsible were run off their feet searching for the malefactors. In the summer of 1993, in Baku, a certain Igor Khatkovsky was arrested and found to be in possession of a whole set of explosive devices ... In the autumn of the same year, another operative, Soso Aroyana, an agent of the counter-espionage service of the Transcaucasian Military District, was arrested while attempting to place a bomb on a train from Tbilisi to Baku. Both gave evidence, which was reported to Moscow. The Russian secret services were involved in the case. After a carefully planned operation in May 1994, officials of the Federal Security Service (FSB) (at that time the Federal Counterespionage Service (FCS)) of the Russian Federation in Moscow arrested a group of terrorist organizers ... The head of the group was Lieutenant-Colonel Jan Oganesyan, the chief of the department of intelligence and subversive operations in the territory of an adversary, the Directorate for National Security of Armenia (counterpart of FSB). The second was his subordinate, Lieutenant-Colonel Ashot Galoyan. A third, Boris Simonyan, worked in FCS, in the department dealing with combating terrorism. All three were Russian nationals, residents of Moscow. The first two were consultant members of the Fund for the Technological and Intellectual Development of Russia (TIRR), which was headed by a certain Valery Petrosian ..." (Alexander Kakotkin, "Takoe ni v odnom detektive ne pridumaesh", Argumenty i fakty, No. 26 (819), June 1996).

According to information from the same source, the military tribunal of the Tambov garrison sentenced J. Oganesyan, A. Galoyan and B. Simonyan to various terms of imprisonment. In the same article in the newspaper Argumenty i fakty, it was further reported that, according to unofficial sources, "... Ashot Galoyan, after having attempted to hang himself in his cell, was promoted to colonel on his return to Armenia (after his release - Ed.)" (Alexander Kakotkin, ibid.)

Evidence of the special relationship of Armenia to international terrorists can be seen, for example, in the fact that the signatures of 1,227,473 nationals of that country were collected in defence of the Armenian terrorist Varujan Karapetyan, who was sentenced in France to life imprisonment for placing an explosive device near the office of the Turkish airlines at Orly airport. The sixth grade at a school in Erevan had already been named in his honour, and in Erevan and Ejmiatsin exhibitions of his paintings were organized. Expressions of sympathy for terrorists by the highest political leadership in Armenia have included the appeal by the President of Armenia, Levon Ter-Petrossian, to the President of France, Jacques Chirac, for a pardon for V. Karapetyan, and the participation by the President of Armenia in the memorial service, attended by 50,000 people, for the well-known international terrorist Monte Melkonyan and his presence at the latter's funeral in Erevan.

Recently in Baku, the trial took place of 10 members of the terrorist organization Sadval, the aim of which is to seize by force of arms part of the territory in the northern part of the Azerbaijani Republic. During the investigation and trial, it was established that the Armenian secret service had cooperated in the establishment of Sadval and in providing funding and weapons for that organization and that the leaders of Sadval had repeatedly visited Erevan and had meetings with various State authorities in Armenia. It was also established that, with a view to carrying out subversive and terrorist acts in the territory of Azerbaijan, 17 terrorists of the Sadval organization had, in April 1992, undergone special subversive training at a training centre of the Ministry of Defence of Armenia located in the village of Lusokert in the Nairi district of Armenia. The court found the accused guilty and pronounced appropriate sentences on the members of Sadval for carrying out a terrorist act at the "20 January" metro station in Baku on 19 March 1994, as a result of which 14 people were killed and 42 sustained bodily injuries of varying degrees of severity.

It is no secret that there are close ties between the Armenian secret service and other known terrorist organizations responsible for killing thousands of innocent people, in particular the Kurdish Workers' Party, militant members of which, according to the information available, are undergoing training at bases made available to them in the territory of Armenia.

The many facts in the possession of the law-enforcement organs of Azerbaijan provide unconditional proof of Armenia's responsibility for the carrying out of terrorist activities against Azerbaijan and other States, its cooperation in the carrying out of such activities by various terrorist organizations and the assistance it has provided to such organizations by making its territory available to them for use as bases and training camps for the preparation and organization of terrorist acts against the States of the region. These facts thus provide sufficient grounds for including Armenia in the list of States which support terrorism at the State level.